



DOCKET NO.: 4532

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR PATENT

OF: Claus HOFFJANN et al. | ART UNIT: 1723

SERIAL NO.: 10/611,404 | CONF. NO.: 1920

FILED: June 30, 2003 | EXAMINER: A. M. FORTUNA

FOR: Method for Using Water in the Processing of Fuels for High  
Temperature Fuel Cells

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

July 20, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Dear Sir:

- 1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 applicants enclose a first Form PTO-1449, copies of references AB to AE cited thereon, and English Abstracts as indicated on Form PTO-1449.
- 2) This IDS is being filed together with an RCE. Thus, no IDS fee is required. See 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4).
- 3) References AA and AE are in English. References AB, AC and AD are accompanied by English Abstracts. Reference AD corresponds to AA, from which the relevance can be determined in English.
- 4) German Patent Publication DE 196 09 475 A1 (Hunck) relates to a high frequency capacitor ignition source and ignition method for internal combustion engines, particularly turbines. This


reference further teaches preparing emulsions of hydrocarbons and water, for example, gas fuel, diesel fuel, whereby the emulsification is performed under the influence of an ultrasound generator. This reference does not teach passing the emulsion of fuel and water through a gap for performing an electrolytical cracking of the molecular bonds in the emulsion.

- 5) German Patent DE 195 30 086 C2 relates to a method of physical and chemical treatment to provide usable water from surface water and waste water. The surface water or waste water is passed through a preliminary filter (10) having an electrically conducting carbon structure (11) whereby ion stabilized suspensions are precipitated and particles not entering the suspension are filtered out. Simultaneously or thereafter the filtered water is passed through an electrochemical oxygen pump whereupon the oxygen enhanced water is passed through a reactor with active charcoal. In the final step the water is passed through a through-flow reactor where it is exposed to ultraviolet radiation. Rough or coarse filtration, ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis are also described. The resulting water is used for example in connection with fuel cells and for use in spacecraft.
- 6) The Examiner is requested to consider all references of record, return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and ensure that all references of record are printed on any patent issuing from this application.

- 7) Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 33 to 59 are respectfully requested.

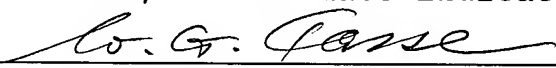
Respectfully submitted,  
Claus HOFFJANN et al.  
Applicant

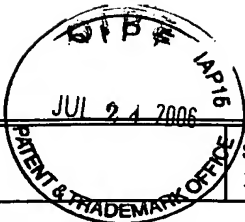
WGF:sk/4532  
Enclosures:  
postcard  
Form PTO-1449  
4 references,  
3 English Abstracts

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

  
Name: Wolfgang G. Fasse - Date: July 20, 2006



<b>Sheet 1 of 1</b> <b>IDS LIST OF REFERENCES</b> <b>CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <b>(FORM PTO-1449)</b> <b>DATED: July 20, 2006</b>				Atty. Docket No.: 4532		Serial No.: 10/611,404	
				Applicant: Claus HOFFJANN et al.			
				U.S. Filing Date: June 30, 2003		Art Unit: 1723	
<b>U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>*EXAMINER INITIAL</b>		<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Cl.</b>	<b>Sub- Cl.</b>	<b>Fil. Date</b>
	AA	2004-0040312	03/2004	Hoffjann et al.	-	-	-
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>Cl.</b>	<b>Sub- Cl.</b>	<b>English</b>
	AB	195 30 086	02/1997	Germany	-	-	Abstract
	AC	196 09 475	09/1997	Germany	-	-	Abstract
	AD	102 16 710	04/2003	Germany	-	-	Abstract, =AA
	AE	0 760 531	03/1997	Europe	-	-	Yes
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							